

Application No. 10/585,713
Amendment dated 2/9/11
Reply to Office action of 11/9/10

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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

----- This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9 (canceled).

Claim 10 (currently amended). A method for transmitting data bursts between a sending network node and a receiving network node over a switching device of a data network, comprising:

transmitting a first data burst;

~~receiving information by~~ wherein the sending network node receives
information regarding implying a blocking time while transmitting the first data burst;

waiting for expiration of the blocking time; and

transmitting a second data burst from the sending network node to the receiving network node immediately after ~~the first data burst~~ expiration of the blocking time.

Claim 11 (previously presented). The method according to claim 10, further comprising transmitting a remaining blocking time of a connection between the sending and receiving nodes to the sending network node.

Claim 12 (previously presented). The method according to claim 11, further

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comprising transmitting to the sending network node both:

the point in time of the beginning of an available connection or the blocking time until the beginning of the available connection, and

the point in time of the termination of the available connection or the duration of the available connection or a length of time until the end of the available connection are transmitted to the sending network node.

Claim 13 (previously presented). The method according to claim 11, wherein the blocking time and the remaining connection time for a connection are transmitted to the sending network node.

Claim 14 (previously presented). The method according to claim 11, wherein the sending network node sends a reservation request via the switching device to the receiving network node.

Claim 15 (previously presented). The method according to claim 14, wherein a desired length of time until a subsequent data burst is sent in the reservation request.

Claim 16 (previously presented). The method according to claim 15, wherein the data burst is transmitted via a plurality of switching devices.

Claim 17 (previously presented). The method according to claim 15, wherein

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each switching device determines and transmits the longest remaining blocking
time to the next switching device or the receiving network node.

Claim 18 (previously presented). The method according to claim 15, wherein during an acknowledgement signal the receiving end node sends the remaining time till an available connection to the sending network node via the switching devices and the switching devices reserve the transmission capacity.

Claim 19 (previously presented). The method according to claim 18, wherein the reserved transmission capacity is based on the remaining time information.

Claim 20 (previously presented). The method according to claim 13, wherein the data bursts are transmitted over an optical data network.

Claim 21 (currently amended). A method for transmitting data bursts between a sending network node and a receiving network node over a switching device of a data network, comprising:

transmitting a first data burst;

transmitting to the sending network node information including

the point in time of the beginning of an available connection or a blocking time of the existing connection until the beginning of an available connection, and the point in time of the termination of the available connection or the

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duration of the available connection or a length of time until the end of the
_____ available connection;

wherein ~~receiving said information by the sending network node receives~~
said information regarding ~~implying~~ the blocking time while transmitting the first
data burst;

waiting for expiration of the blocking time; and

transmitting a second data burst from the sending network node to the
receiving network node immediately after ~~the first data burst~~ expiration of the
blocking time.

Claim 22 (previously presented). The method according to claim 21, wherein the
blocking time is the time duration till the next permissible data burst transmission.

Claim 23 (currently amended). A method for transmitting data bursts between a
sending network node and a receiving network node over a switching device of a
data network, comprising:

transmitting a first data burst;

transmitting to the sending network node information containing the point in
time of the beginning of an available connection or a remaining blocking time of an
existing connection, and the duration of the available connection;

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wherein ~~receiving said information by~~ the sending network node ~~receives~~

_____ said information regarding implying the blocking time while transmitting the first data burst;

waiting for expiration of the blocking time; and

then transmitting a second data burst from the sending network node to the receiving network node immediately after ~~the first data burst~~ expiration of the blocking time.